December 17, 2002

FIELD CROPS

POTATO STOCKS

POTATO STOCKS UP 2 PERCENT

The 15 major potato States held 265 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, 2002, up 2 percent from last year but 15 percent below 2000. Storage accounted for 65 percent of the 2002 fall production, down 2 percentage points from last year. Stocks by type were 3 percent red, 11 percent round white, 3 percent long white (Shepody), and 83 percent russet; with more round whites and fewer long whites and russets than a year ago.

Disappearance, at 146 million cwt, from the start of harvest to December 1, is up 13 percent from the same period last year but 2 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 16.2 million cwt, is up 10 percent from last year and 14 percent below two years ago.

Processors used 77.6 million cwt of 2002 crop potatoes so far this season, up 18 percent from a year ago but 1 percent below two years ago. Idaho and Malheur processing gained 36 percent while Washington and the rest of Oregon processed 15 percent more 2002 crop potatoes than a year ago. Dehydrators used 15.7 million cwt to date. Colorado has joined the group of 9 processing States this year and South Dakota has dropped out.

Western States held 188 million cwt of potatoes in storage on December 1, up 6 percent from last year but 15 percent below two years ago. Idaho's potato stocks are up 5 percent from last year and Colorado's are up 29 percent. The return of irrigation water to the Klamath Basin boosted California's stocks 25 percent from last year and helped increase Oregon's stocks by 3 percent. Washington's sheds stored the same amount of potatoes as last year but Montana's stocks are up 2 percent.

Central States accounted for 61.2 million cwt of potato stocks this December, down 5 percent from last year and 13 percent below two years ago. North Dakota's stocks dropped 18 percent, Ohio fell 37 percent, Michigan slipped 4 percent and Wisconsin declined 1 percent from last year's level. Minnesota's stocks are equal to last year while Nebraska's storages hold 16 percent more than in 2001.

Eastern States stored 16.3 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, down 1 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2000. Maine's stocks were up 3 percent, New York's gained 4 percent, but were offset by a 33 percent decline in Pennsylvania.

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks on December 1, 2001 and 2002 ^{1/}

		Crop of 2002					
State	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2001	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2002	December as percent of production	
	1,000	cwt	Percent	1,000	Percent		
California Colorado Idaho Maine Michigan Minnesota Montana Nebraska New York North Dakota Ohio Oregon Pennsylvania Washington Wisconsin	1,424 21,357 120,200 16,430 13,950 18,425 3,296 8,400 5,942 26,400 1,097 20,730 3,173 94,400 31,955	1,200 15,600 87,500 12,200 8,200 12,000 3,000 4,850 2,400 19,500 300 17,500 1,800 53,000 19,700	84 73 74 59 65 91 58 40 74 27 84 57 56 62	4,450 27,885 133,385 16,960 13,878 18,700 3,213 8,414 5,500 23,460 1,008 24,936 2,590 95,200 31,125	1,500 20,100 92,000 12,600 7,900 12,000 3,050 5,650 2,500 16,000 190 18,000 1,200 53,000 19,500	34 72 69 74 57 64 95 67 45 68 19 72 46 56 63	
Total 15 States	387,179	258,750	67	410,704	265,190	65	

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2002 totaled 29.3 million cwt.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, nine States, 2000-2002 ^{1/}

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State	Crop	То	То	To	То	То	То	То	Entire		
	year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1	season		
		1,000 cwt									
Idaho & Malheur	2000	29,290	35,720	43,470	50,580	58,910	66,760	75,270	93,460		
County, Oregon	2001	20,940	27,330	33,620	40,860	47,710	54,150	61,200	73,390		
County, Oregon	2002	28,380									
	2000	1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695	4,225	4,760	5,340	7,015		
Maine 2/	2001	1,975	2,440	3,110	3,700	4,285	4,775	5,515	7,195		
	2002	2,275									
West states and Other	2000	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250	62,860	69,850	78,010	91,130		
Washington and Other	2001	29,320	35,310	40,540	47,910	54,970	61,360	69,400	77,180		
areas, Oregon	2002	33,680									
	2000	12,665	16,215	18,975	22,095	25,410	28,695	31,765	39,020		
Other States 3/	2001	13,270	15,325	19,060	22,255	24,865	28,095	30,810	36,300		
	2002	13,275									
	2000	78,570	95,380	113,270	131,620	151,405	170,065	190,385	230,625		
Total	2001	65,505	80,405	96,330	114,725	131,830	148,380	166,925	194,065		
. 513	2002	77,610	00,.00	00,000	,0	,		. 55,525	,		
	2000 5/								51,946		
Dehydrated 4/	2000 5/								38,581		
Denyuraleu	2001 5/	15,660							30,301		
	2002	15,000									

Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, CO, MI, and WI. ^{2/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{3/} MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI in 2000 and 2001. CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI in 2002. ^{4/} Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Included in above totals. ^{5/} No monthly data available.